README
2010 Census Public Use Microdata Sample File (PUMS)
for US States

Delivered via FTP

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Product Overview

The 2010 Census Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) files are composed of microdata records which have been sampled and modified to protect respondent confidentiality.

The 2010 Census PUMS files are comprised of records for the total population including those living in housing units, institutions, college dormitories, and other group quarters facilities. The files also include vacant housing units which contain no people. The smallest geographic unit identified within the PUMS is the Public Use Microdata Area (PUMA). PUMAs are defined after each decennial census for use in presenting PUMS data, and are defined within states based on a minimum population threshold of 100,000.

PUMS files contain records representing a 10-percent sample of the occupied and vacant housing units in the U.S. and Puerto Rico and the people in the occupied units and people in the group quarters units.

About the FTP Application

- The FTP application is intended for experienced users of census data, compressed files, and spreadsheet/database software.

- FTP users should have a fast file transfer capability.

- Users can choose to download the **.txt** file if you have the system capacity to do so or the **.zip** file. After download, users will need to unzip the compressed file for importing the data into your desired spreadsheet/database software for data analysis.

- **NOTE:** No software is being provided to convert or import this data. We do not have resources to support various software applications.

Technical Documentation

▪ Components of the Technical Documentation are location at
http://www2.census.gov/census_2010/12-Stateside_PUMS/0TECH_DOC/ . The complete
technical document will be available at a later date.

File Record Layout

▪ The file record layout is available in excel format in the FTP directory at
http://www2.census.gov/census_2010/12-Stateside_PUMS/0TECH_DOC/ .   The filename is
2010 PUMS Record Layout.xlsx. The file record layout with individual variables is provided in
Chapter 6 of the complete Technical Documentation.

PUMS Data File

▪ The State PUMS files are in flat ASCII format located at
http://www2.census.gov/census_2010/12-Stateside_PUMS/ in each State's directory. The filenames are
<st>.2010.pums.01.zip and **<st>.2010.pums.01.txt**. Where <st> is replaced with the state abbreviation.